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DEF DOC # 464

MEMORANDUM

Signed at Seoul, in English, May 14, 1896 (29th year of Meiji).
Published February 26, 1897 (30th year of Meiji).

The Representatives of Russia and Japan at Seoul having conferred under the identical instructions from their respective Governments have arrived at the following conclusions:

I. While leaving the matter of His Majesty the King of Korea's return to the Palace entirely to his own discretion and judgment, the Representatives of Russia and Japan will friendly advise His Majesty to return to that place when no doubts concerning his safety there could be entertained.

The Japanese Representative on his part gives the assurance that the most complete and effective measures will be taken for the control of Japanese soshi.

II. The present Cabinet Ministers have been appointed by His Majesty from his own free will and most of them held ministeria or other high offices during the last two years and are known to be liberal and moderate men.

The two Representatives will always aim at recommending to His Majesty to appoint liberal and moderate men as Ministers and to show clemency to his subjects.

III. The Representative of Russia quite agrees with the Representative of Japan, that at the present state of affairs in Korea it may be necessary to have Japanese guards stationed at

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some places for the protection of the Japanese telegraph line between Fusan and Seoul, and that these guards now consisting of three companies of soldiers, should be withdrawn as soon as possible and replaced by gendarmes, who will be distributed as follows: fifty men at Taiku, fifty men at Ka-heung and ten men each at ten intermediate posts between Fusan and Seoul. This distribution may be liable to some changes, but the total number of the gendarme force shall never exceed two hundred men, who will afterwards gradually be withdrawn from such places, where peace and order has been restored by the Korean Government.

IV. For the protection of the Japanese settlements at Seoul and the open ports against possible attacks by the Korean populace, two companies of Japanese troops may be stationed at Seoul, one company at Fusan and one at Gensan, each company not to exceed two hundred men. These troops will be quartered near the settlements and shall be withdrawn as soon as no apprehensions of such attacks could be entertained.

For the protection of the Russian Legation and Consulates the Russian Government may also keep guards not exceeding the number of Japanese troops at those places, and which will be withdrawn as soon as tranquillity in the interior is completely restored

Seoul, May 14th, 1896.

Signed: J. KOMURA,
Representative of Japan.

Signed: WAEBER,
Representative of Russia.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section,
Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document
hereto attached in ^{English} Japanese consisting of ² 3 pages and entitled
"Memorandum concerning the problem of Korea, May 14, 1896."
is an exact and true copy of an official translation of the
Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,
on this 31st day of January, 1947.

(signed) K. Hayashi
Signature of Official

Witness: (signed) Nagaharu Odo

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朝鮮問題ニ関スル覺書

明治二十九年五月十四日京城ニ於テ印(英文)
明治三十年二月二十六日發 表

(附 文)

在京城日露兩國代表者ハ其ノ各自ノ政府ヨリ同綴ノ訓令ヲ受ケ陸軍ノ上
左ノ通り議定セリ

朝鮮國王陛下ノ王宮へ送御ノコトハ陛下御一己ノ裁斷ニ一任スヘキモ
日露兩國代表者ハ陛下ガ王宮ニ送御アラセラルルモ其ノ安全ニ付キ統
統ヲ拘クニ及バザル時ニ至ラバ送御アラシメコトヲ忠告スヘシ又日本國
代表者ハ茲ニ日本壯士ノ取締ニ付キ要請ナル措置ヲ執ルベキ保證ヲ與
フ

現任内閣大臣ハ陛下ノ御一存ヲ以テ任命セラレタルモノニシテ多クハ
過ル二年間國務大臣若クハ其ノ他ノ要職ニ在リテ寛大溫和主義ヲ以テ
知ラレタル人々ナリ日露兩國代表者ハ陛下ガ寛大溫和ノ人物ヲ其ノ閣

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臣ニ任命セラレ且ツ寛仁以テ其ノ臣民ニ對セラレンコトヲ陛下ニ報告
スルコトヲ以テ常ニ其ノ目的ト爲スベシ

朝鮮國代表者ハ左ノ點ニ付キ益ク日本國代表者ト意見ヲ同フス即チ朝鮮
國ノ現況ニテハ釜山京城間ノ日本電信線保護ノ爲メ或邊境ニ日本國衛
兵ヲ置クノ必要アルベキコト及現ニ三中队ノ兵丁ヲ以テ組成スル所ノ
隊員ハ可成速ニ撤回シテ之ニ代フルニ意兵ヲ以テシ左ノ如ク之ヲ配
置スベキコト即チ大邸ニ五十人可與ニ五十人釜山京城間ニ在ル十箇所
ノ派出所ニ各十人トス尤右ノ配置ハ變更スルコトヲ望ムベキモ實兵隊ノ
總數ハ決シテ二百人ヲ超過スベカラズ而シテ此等意兵モ將來朝鮮政府
ニ於テ安寧秩序ヲ回復シタル各地ヨリ漸次撤回スベキコト

朝鮮人ヨリ萬一建議セラルル場合ニ對シ京城及各開港場ニ在ル日本人
居留地ヲ保護スル爲メ京城ニ二中队釜山ニ一中隊元山ニ一中隊ノ日本
兵ヲ置クコトヲ得但シ一中隊ノ人員ハ二百名ヲ超過スベカラズ該兵ハ
各居留地ノ最寄ニ屯營スベク而シテ前記居留地ノ虞ナキニ至リ次第之ヲ
撤回スベシ又露國公使館及領事館ヲ保護スル爲メ露國政府モ亦右各地

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ニ於テ日本兵ノ人数ニ超過セザル衛兵ヲ置クコトヲ誓而シテ右衛兵ハ内
地全ク警備ニ備シ次第之ヲ撤回スベシ

明治廿九年五月十四日京城ニ於テ

日本軍代表者 小村 壽 太郎
露國代表者 ウ ニ バ